

HUMOROUS HUMERUS

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When the ulnar nerve is struck at the medial edge of the distal humerus, it's not humorous, but who knows? the connection between these two homonyms may have led to the designation 'funny bone'. I present below a list of definitions for similar pairs (sometimes, triples) of homonyms. As the title implies, at least one word in each homonym set comes from a scientific vocabulary (but all words appear in Webster's Third edition). As an additional aid, the number of letters in each word is indicated.

1. goosey reply (5 6)
2. desire for calcium phosphate (7 8)
3. cheek fastening (6 6)
4. heart of the cardiac unit (3 5 4)
5. seer of the cardiac unit (7 6)
6. abundant resinous trees (8 7)
7. abundant moss pink (5 6)
8. waste product of murre (4 4)
9. deer corps (6 7)
10. chair for a mulberry (5 6)
11. guan crevices (4 6)
12. vascular quahog (6 5)
13. dogberry molding (6 7)
14. parsley rebound (5 5)
15. skin of the hover fly (7 7)
16. wasp emergency (7 6)
17. balcony for a ribbon fern (6 7)
18. spores on a hop tree (6 5)
19. pregnant French titmouse ... (6 5 5)
20. ... and mockery of her attempt at equality (7 6 6)

Give up? See Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.